

**MINUTES OF THE GRAIGUECULLEN/PORTARLINGTON MUNICIPAL DISTRICT  
MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 6<sup>TH</sup> OF DECEMBER 2023 IN THE COUNCIL  
CHAMBER, ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, PORTLAOISE AND VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS**

**PRESENT** Mr. Ben Brennan, M.C.C. (In the Chair)  
Mr. Pdraig Fleming, M.C.C.  
Mr. Paschal McEvoy, M.C.C.  
Mr. P.J. Kelly, M.C.C.  
Ms. Aisling Moran, M.C.C.

**APOLOGIES:** Mr. Aidan Mullins, M.C.C.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr. Gerry Murphy, Head of Finance  
Mr. Philip McVeigh, Senior Executive Engineer  
Ms. Michelle McCormack, Staff Officer

**(1) Confirmation of the Minutes of the November meeting of the Graiguecullen/Portarlington Municipal District held on the 15<sup>th</sup> of November 2023**

On the proposition of Councillor Paschal McEvoy seconded by Councillor Pdraig Fleming, the Members unanimously agreed the minutes of the November meeting of the Graiguecullen / Portarlington Municipal District held on the 15<sup>th</sup> of November 2023

**(2) Progress Report**

The report was noted, and the Members complimented Mr. Philip McVeigh, Senior Executive Engineer and all the team on the works that had been completed since the last meeting.

**(3) Notice of Motions:-**

**Notice of Motion No: 138/2023**

Councillor Ben Brennan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council put in place crash barriers at the Strand Bridge, Ballickmoyler”.***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Pdraig Fleming. The Members were advised that Laois County Council has inspected this location and will arrange to install a crash barrier at the bridge in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2024.

**Notice of Motion No: 139/2023**

Councillor Ben Brennan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council trim back the trees on the Northern Relief Road in Graiguecullen”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will apply to TII for funding for these works and will proceed to undertake the works when funds are made available.

**Notice of Motion No: 140/2023**

Councillor Ben Brennan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council carry out new markings on the road at Crughan Cross and cut back the hedges and repair the road at Ballyhide Cross”.***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Pdraig Fleming. The Members were advised that Laois County Council has inspected this location and will arrange for new road markings to be installed at Crughan Cross. A hedge cutting notice is being issued to the landowner and road repairs have now been completed at Ballyhide Cross.

**As Councillor Aidan Mullins was absent, it was agreed that his Notice of Motions be considered and read into the minutes.**

**Notice of Motion No: 141/2023 – Councillor Aidan Mullins**

***“That Laois County Council install a speed ramp in Park Lane, Portarlinton”***

The Members were advised that the Council will arrange to carry out a speed survey for this street. The data will be used to assess the requirement for potential traffic calming measures.

**Notice of Motion No: 142/2023 – Councillor Aidan Mullins**

***“That Laois County Council install public lights on Canal Road opposite Clanmalire Estate in Portarlinton”***

The Members were advised that Laois County Council will assess the current provision and standard of lighting in this area and develop proposals accordingly.

**Notice of Motion No: 143/2023 – Councillor Aidan Mullins**

***“That Laois County Council erect ‘Slow Down – Children at Play’ signs at Woodland Park in Portarlinton”***

The Members were advised that the Housing Department will arrange for a “Children At Play” sign at this location.

**Notice of Motion No: 144/2023**

Councillor P.J. Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:

***“That Laois County Council investigate the possibility of creating a school zone area on the public road outside Rath National School, Ballybrittas to help slow traffic during busy school dropping off and collecting times”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will arrange to meet with the Elected Member at this location to review the scope of works required.

**Notice of Motion No: 145/2023**

Councillor P.J. Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

*“That Laois County Council contact Google Maps to see is it possible to take the Ballycarroll Road down to the Rock of Dunamase off of their system (for the purpose of accessing the Rock) as local residents are unable to cope with all the extra traffic that is directed to this route by sat nav”*

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Padraig Fleming. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will review the road network around the Rock and where required will contact Google Maps suggesting alternatives.

**Notice of Motion No: 146/2023**

Councillor P.J. Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

*“That Laois County Council upgrade all the road markings around the Kennel’s Crossroads near Emo”*

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aisling Moran. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will arrange to carry out these works as soon as possible.

**Notice of Motion No: 147/2023**

Councillor Padraig Fleming proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

*“That Laois County Council carry out safety measures at Ballyadams National School to include a new railing on part of the footpath from the school to the carpark, minor passing bays for pedestrians and to upgrade road markings. Also, to move back further the flashing school light on the car park side as the current position is too close to the school to be effective following a meeting with school management and parent representatives”*

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that the Council recently met with the school management and representatives for the school and will arrange for the installation of new road markings on the approach to the school as soon as possible. Works on the footpath and passing bay could be carried out pending agreement with the adjacent landowner. The flashing school lights have been referred to the Council’s public lighting section for review.

**Notice of Motion No: 148/2023**

Councillor Padraig Fleming proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council install a drain at the factory gate, The Swan in order to alleviate flooding”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will investigate the drainage layout at this location to identify the source of the water ponding at the factory gate.

**Notice of Motion No: 149/2023**

Councillor Padraig Fleming proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council develop a plan for Bus / Shelters for Ballylinan Village in view of the number of buses that go through / from the Village on a daily basis for local and national routes and in particular to protect the people who use these buses especially at times of inclement weather”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that Laois County Council has included Ballylinan as a potential location for the provision of Bus Shelters. The location will be assessed and where deemed suitable followed by an application to the NTA. The NTA are the body responsible for the provision of funding for bus shelters. The provision of shelters will be coordinated throughout the county and the timeline will be dependent on NTA approvals and the level of funding provided.

**Notice of Motion No: 150/2023**

Councillor Aisling Moran proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That this Council resurface the 200m of public road on Dunbrin Lane, Barrowhouse as it is in very bad repair”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Padraig Fleming. The Members were advised that temporary surfacing works have been completed along this road.

**Notice of Motion No: 151/2023**

Councillor Aisling Moran proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That this Council relieve the flooding at the entrance to Rossmore View”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Padraig Fleming. The Members were advised that Laois County Council has inspected this location at the entrance to the Rossmore View estate and will arrange to carry out drainage improvement works early in the new year.

#### **Notice of Motion No: 152/2023**

Councillor Aisling Moran proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That this Council include the road from Barrowhouse Church to the Athy Road on the Roads Programme for next year”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Pádraig Fleming. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will consider this road for inclusion in the 2024 Road Surfacing Programme.

#### **Notice of Motion No: 153/2023**

Councillor Paschal McEvoy proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That this Council carry out a safety audit at the Junction on the Vicarstown Road onto Main Street Stradbally”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor P.J. Kelly. The Members were advised that a road safety assessment will be carried out at the existing junction.

#### **Notice of Motion No: 154/2023**

Councillor Paschal McEvoy proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That this Council carry out repairs to the road from Ballykilcavan to Kellyville and freshen up road signage at the Cross on the Athy Road”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor P.J. Kelly. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will arrange for these road repairs and new road markings to be carried out as soon as possible.

#### **Notice of Motion No: 155/2023**

Councillor Paschal McEvoy proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That this Council investigate the flooding at Rathmore Road, Stradbally as it's causing flooding to a resident's property”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor P.J. Kelly. The Members were advised that Laois County Council has investigated this location and a roadside drain is required to be installed at this property.

#### **(4) Correspondence**

It was noted that no correspondence had been received since the last meeting of the Municipal District













